

Remarks

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject patent application are respectfully requested.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication that claims 13, 15, 24, 26, 36, 38, 41, 42 and 52 contain allowable subject matter.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate features of claims 14 and 15. Consequently, claim 1 and its dependent claims 4-12 are believed to be allowable.

Claim 13 has been combined with claim 1 and is believed to be allowable.

Claim 16 has been amended to incorporate features of claims 25 and 26. Consequently, claim 16 and its dependent claims 17-23 are believed to be allowable.

Claim 24 has been combined with claim 16 and is believed to be allowable.

Claim 27 has been amended to incorporate features of claims 37 and 38. Consequently, claim 27 and its dependent claims 28-35 and 39 are believed to be allowable.

Claim 36 has been combined with claim 27 and is believed to be allowable.

Claim 40 has been amended to incorporate features of claim 41. Consequently, claim 40 and its dependent claims 43-51 and 53 are believed to be allowable.

Claim 42 has been written in independent form and is believed to be allowable.

Claim 52 has been written in independent form and is believed to be allowable.

Claim 53 has been amended to incorporate features along the lines of claims 14 and 15. Consequently, claim 53 is believed to be allowable.

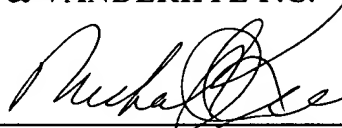
Claims 2, 3, 14, 15, 25, 26, 37, 38 and 41 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

The pending claims are believed to be in condition for allowance and favorable office action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Michael J. Shea", is written over a horizontal line.

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